

**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF MALLING**

ANNUAL REPORT

on the
**Health of the Malling
District
for the year 1951**

By the
Medical Officer of Health
Dr. N. HAY BOLTON
and
Senior Sanitary Inspector
H. C. COLDRICK



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

N. HAY BOLTON, M.D., CH.B., D.T.M. & H., F.R.C.S.
(Edin.).

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Surveyor:

H. C. COLDRICK, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

W. C. E. KEUTENIUS, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

R. MARSDIN, Cert. S.I.B.

(Commenced 8/1/51)

Cleansing Officer:

A. J. WELLER, M.I.T.A.

Housing Inspector:

R. SOUTER.

Clerks:

J. T. AUSTIN

(Medical Officer's and Senior Clerk)

(resigned 5/9/51)

R. M. CRIPPS

(Senior Sanitary Inspector's Clerk)

E. D. DAY

(Medical Officer's Clerk)

(Commenced 5/11/51)

G. T. DODGE

(General Clerk)

F. P. GREEN

(Cleansing Officer's Clerk)

(Commenced 18/6/51)

(Mrs.) A. J. WELLER

(Temporary part-time appointment)

(26/2/51 to 5/5/51)

Area of District (in acres)	45,655
Registrar-General's estimate of Mid-Year Home Population	36,510
Average density of persons per acre	0.80
Average density of persons per square mile ...	512
Number of inhabited dwellings (end 1951) accord- ing to Rate Books—computed	9,984
Average density of dwellings 1 per	4.6 acres
Average number of persons per dwelling inhabited	3.66
Rateable Value (for 1950/51)	£195,795
Rateable Value (for 1951/52)	£204,961
Sum represented by a penny rate (for 1950/51)...	£844
Sum represented by a penny rate (for 1951/52) (Estimated)	£837

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
High Street,

West Malling, Kent.

4th June, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the Malling Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my eighteenth Annual Report on the health of the area for the year ended 31st December, 1951.

The Report has been prepared on the lines of that for 1950, as indicated in Ministry of Health Circular 42/51, dated 10th December, 1951. The circular draws attention to the fact that excessive importance should not be attached to rates which may be based on very small numbers, e.g., less than 10. It is suggested that the actual numbers should be shown and attention drawn to the fact that comparisons with other areas or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

Population: The excess of births over deaths for the year was 126. The Registrar-General's estimate of Mid-Year Home Population of 36,510 is an increase of 1,560 over that for 1950. This apparent large increase for the year reflects the result of the Census of Population which was carried out on the 8th April, 1951.

Vital Statistics: The Death Rate of 12·08 for the year is an increase compared with 11·67 for the previous twelve months. The numerical chief causes of death were again Heart Diseases, Respiratory Diseases, and Cancer. Approximately 4% of the deaths occurred in infants under 1 year of age and 67% in persons aged 65 years and over.

The Birth Rate of 15·53 for the year was an increase over that of 14·62 for 1950. This is the first time that an increase has been recorded since 1946, and the rate is approximate to the provisional figure for England and Wales for 1951. Of the total number of births 4·23% were illegitimate. There were no maternal deaths during the year. This is the second year in succession that such has been the case. The infantile mortality rate for the year of 31·75 was an increase over that of 21·53 for 1950, which itself was an increase over the 1949 figure of 17·64. The Registrar-General has again supplied Area Comparability Factors for adjusting the birth and death rates for securing comparison with rates in other districts.

Accidents in the Home: The Ministry of Health has suggested (Ref.: Monthly Bulletin—January 1952) that attention be drawn to the large percentage of accidental deaths caused through accidents that have occurred in the home. No details are available as to whether deaths from these causes are large or small in the Malling area, but the following figures give some idea of the position over the Country as a whole:—

Fatal Domestic Accidents—

Age Groups	0— 5 years	...	...	19%
	5—15	„	...	4%
	15—65	„	...	18%
	65 and over	...	...	59%
Sex Distribution—Male	...	...	...	40%
	Female	...	...	60%

Types of Fatality

Coal Gas	...	...	6%
Burns and Scalds	...	...	10%
Others	...	...	12%
Suffocation	...	...	14%
Falls	...	...	58%

Fatal Home compared with Fatal Road Accidents—

Road Fatalities	...	...	38%
Home Fatalities	...	...	62%

Proportion of Fatal Home Accidents to Fatal Accidents from all causes—

Home Accidents	...	...	46%
Other Accidents	...	...	54%

Infectious and Notifiable Diseases: It is very gratifying that I am again able to report, for the fourth year in succession, that no notification was received, or death recorded from Diphtheria.

The notification rates of other diseases for the year have generally followed the pattern of those for England and Wales, though Whooping Cough and Measles show a higher rate.

Of the 4 cases of food poisoning notified, 3 occurred in a Hospital in the area, and of the 623 cases of Measles 96 occurred in another Institution.

Apart from the increased incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough, which usually is expected to follow a definite cyclical pattern, there were also increased numbers of cases of Dysentery and Erysipelas during the year. Of the 11 cases of Erysipelas 9 occurred in one or other of the two hospitals in the district, as also did 128 of the 133 cases of Dysentery notified.

Staff: Details of the Staff of the Public Health Department are recorded on the inside front cover page.

Laboratory Facilities: There has been no change in the arrangements during 1951 whereby the County Pathologist or County Analyst at County Hall, Maidstone, according to examination required, have carried out this work. These arrangements have proved to be quite satisfactory.

Ambulance Facilities: Nursing in the Home: Maternity and Child Welfare: Child Life Protection: School Health Services: The Kent County Council is the responsible authority for the administration of these services, in this district.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47: No action was taken during the year under Section 47 of this Act for the removal of aged and infirm persons. 7 visits were made to aged people for investigation of their living conditions.

Mortuaries: The three mortuaries provided by the Council and situated at Aylesford, Borough Green and West Malling continued in use during the year. They are available for use at any time and the Police are provided with keys. There is also a mortuary at Snodland provided by the Parish Council.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936: No action was taken under the above during the year.

Statistical Data: Appendix A which follows contains the various tables recording vital statistics, incidence of infectious diseases, etc.

Note: The adjusted Birth and Death Rates are obtained by multiplying the Crude Rates in each case by the Area Comparability Factors which have been supplied by the Registrar-General. These allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, and they are used for comparing the birth and death rates with those in other areas.

APPENDIX "A"

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	288	255	543
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	15	9	24
Total Live Births	...	...	...	...	303	264	567
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Mid-Year Home population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15·53 (crude)
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor of 1·00 supplied by the Registrar-General—see note under Statistical Data for explanation)							15·53 (adjusted)
Stillbirths:							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	13·91
Deaths:							
Total (Male 245, Female 196)	...	...	...	...	...	...	441
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Mid-Year Home population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12·08 (crude)
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor of 0·94 supplied by the Registrar-General—see note under Statistical Data for explanation)							11·36 (adjusted)
Deaths from puerperal causes—							
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:							
Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (Male 10, Female 8)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Rate—All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	31·75
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	29·47
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	83·33
Number of Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age (Male 8, Female 7)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Deaths from: Malignant neoplasms (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

Year	* per 1,000 estimated Home Population				per 1,000 total live & still births	per 1,000 live births
	Live Birth Rate		Death Rate		Still Birth Rate	Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age
	Crude Rate	Adjusted Rate	Crude Rate	Adjusted Rate		
Malling R.D. 1947	22.69	—	12.40	—	24.77	37.43
1948	17.97	—	12.36	—	27.03	32.68
1949	16.53	—	10.35	9.63	13.31	17.64
1950	14.62	14.62	11.67	10.97	19.19	21.53
1951	15.53	15.53	12.08	11.36	13.91	31.75
England and Wales 1951 (Provisional)	15.5		12.5			29.6‡

* Years 1947-1948 (inc.) rates per 1,000 estimated resident population and for 1949 rates for 1,000 estimated civilian resident population.
 ‡ Per 1,000 related live births.

CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE.

The following table shows the number of cases in which bedding was steam disinfected and one or more rooms fumigated:—

Work Carried Out	Tuber- culosis	Meningo- coccal Infection	Scarlet Fever	Cancer	Poliomyeli- tis	Erysipelas	Influenza and Bronchitis
Fumigation of Rooms and Disinfection of Bedding	1	1	—	1	2	—	1
Fumigation of Rooms only	10	—	4	—	—	1	—
Disinfection of Bedding only	1	—	—	1	—	—	—

Food Poisoning: The table given below is of food poisoning notifications which were received and investigated and returned to the Registrar General:—

1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		Total	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	—

Outbreaks due to identified agents:

Total Outbreaks: 1 (Salmonella Organisms Typhi-murium). Total cases: 3.

Outbreaks of undiscovered cause:

Total Outbreaks: Nil.

Total Cases: Nil.

Single Cases:

Agent identified: 1 (Salmonella Organisms Typhi-murium).

Unknown Cause: Nil.

Total Cases: 1.

There were no deaths from food poisoning during the year.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox. The Kent County Council is responsible for the provision in this district of facilities for immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox and the following information has been received from the County Medical Officer (Dr. A. Elliott), concerning such during the year 1951.

	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—9	10—14	Total under 15 years	
								15 or over	Total
No. of Children resident in the Rural District of Malling who were immunised against diphtheria during the year ended 31st December, 1951. (i) Primary Inoculations (ii) Reinforcing Inoculations	44	335	38	16	8	41	52	534	
	—	—	—	1	13	307	267	588	
No. of children resident in the Rural District of Malling under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1951, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1936).	44	375	465	483	491	1362	923	4143	
No. of persons resident in the Rural District of Malling who were vaccinated against smallpox during the year ended 31st December, 1951. (i) Number Vaccinated (ii) Number Re-Vaccinated.	206		146	62	90	504			
	—		3	67	169	239			

The following table relates to the incidence of Notifiable Disease according to disease, sex, and age groups:—

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles (excluding Rubella)		Diphtheria	
					Paralytic		Non-paralytic					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	8	9	—	—	—	—	4	7	—	—
1—2	1	—	31	35	—	—	—	—	48	49	—	—
3—4	2	—	37	42	1	—	—	—	75	66	—	—
5—9	4	5	50	59	—	—	—	—	149	125	—	—
10—14	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	38	16	—	—
15—24	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	25	1	—	—
25 and over	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	16	4	—	—
Age Unknown	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	8	5	128	150	1	1	—	—	355	268	—	—
	13		278		2		—		623		—	
Quarter ending												
31-3-51	—	—	46	50	—	—	—	—	249	169	—	—
30-6-51	4	2	67	78	—	—	—	—	103	90	—	—
30-9-51	1	—	12	19	—	—	—	—	3	9	—	—
31-12-51	3	3	3	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Acute Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Acute encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever	
							Infective		Post Infectious			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	—	—	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	1	—	46	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	1	2	12	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	2	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	2	69	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8		133		—		—		—		—	
Quarter ending												
31-3-51	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30-6-51	1	2	17	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30-9-51	1	—	37	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31-12-51	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Para- Typhoid Fever		Erysipelas		Meningococcal Infection		Food Poisoning		Puerperal pyrexia		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	F		M	F
Under 5	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	—	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
45—64	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	—	11	—	3	—	4	—	2	—	—	—
	—		11		3		4		2		—	
Quarter ending												
31-3-51	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
30-6-51	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30-9-51	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—
31-12-51	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The table given below is inserted for comparison with the Death and Notification rates for England and Wales with those for Malling Rural District for 1951 and five previous years:—

	England and Wales (provisional 1951)	Malling Rural District					
		1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
		(Civilian)					(Resident)
Rates per 1,000 population (Home)							
DEATHS—							
All causes	12.50	12.08	11.67	10.35	12.36	12.40	11.57
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
Tuberculosis	0.31	0.38x	0.43x	0.58x	0.68x	0.61x	0.62x
Influenza	0.38	0.12	0.20	0.09	0.00	0.06	0.19
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00
Pneumonia	0.61	0.58	0.49	0.50	0.35	0.73	0.53
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)—							
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.08	0.00	0.00O	0.03O	0.03O	0.03O
Scarlet Fever	1.11	0.36	0.63	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.96
Whooping Cough	3.87	7.61	1.12	0.99	6.40	1.58	1.34
Diphtheria	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.22
Erysipelas	0.14	0.30	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.06	0.09
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	14.07	17.06	4.41	13.87	7.46	5.58	2.24
Pneumonia	0.99	0.22	0.26	0.50	0.35	0.36	0.68
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.03	0.05	0.11	0.06	0.03	0.18	0.03
(including							
Acute Polioencephalitis)	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.13	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Encephalitis		0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Post Infectious		0.00	0.00	1.31	1.61	1.18	1.06
Respiratory		1.42	1.06	0.12	0.59	0.42	0.40
Other Forms		0.27	0.37				

O—Cerebro-spinal Fever.

x—Respiratory and Other Forms.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The table set out below records in age groups the new cases recorded in the register during the year, together with the number of deaths which occurred.

Age Periods (Years)	New Cases*				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
1—4	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...
5—14	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15—24	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—34	9	4	...	...	3	2	...	...
35—44	8	2	1	2	...	2	...	...
45—54	8	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
55—64	2	1	1	...	2	1	...	...
65 and over	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...
Age Unknown	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	33	19	6	4	6	6	2	...
	52		10		12		2	
	62				14			
March Quarter	...	1	...	...	1	3	...	...
June Quarter	6	5	2	1	3	2	...	...
September Quarter	2	4	...	...	1	...	1	...
December Quarter	25	9	4	3	1	1	1	...

* Relates to Primary Notifications received under Article V of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930.

Number of deaths from Tuberculosis of persons who had not been notified as suffering from that disease (1 M., — F.)—1 = 7.14%.

The following table shows the number of deaths from all causes during the year with Rates per 1,000 Estimated Home Population:—

R.G.'s list No.	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths			Rates per 1,000 Estimated Home Population	
		M	F	Total	1959	1950
1	Tuberculosis—Respiratory	6	6	12	0.33	0.40
2	Tuberculosis—other	2	...	2	0.05	0.03
3	Syphilitic disease	1	2	3	0.08	0.00
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
5	Whooping Cough	...	1	1	0.03	0.00
6	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	1	...	1	0.03	0.03
8	Measles	2	...	2	0.05	0.00
9	Other infective and Parasitic diseases	...	...	...	0.00	0.03
10	Malignant Neoplasm—stomach	7	6	13	0.36	0.40
11	Malignant Neoplasm — lung, bronchus	9	2	11	0.30	0.20
12	Malignant Neoplasm—breast	...	7	7	0.19	0.20
13	Malignant Neoplasm—uterus	...	2	2	0.05	0.11
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	12	27	0.74	1.23
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	1	1	0.03	0.09
16	Diabetes	1	1	2	0.05	0.11
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	32	28	60	1.65	1.29
18	Coronary disease, angina	21	18	39	1.07	1.09
19	Hypertension with Heart disease	7	7	14	0.38	0.17
20	Other Heart disease	43	45	88	2.41	2.12
21	Other circulatory disease	5	10	15	0.41	0.57
22	Influenza	4	3	7	0.19	0.20
23	Pneumonia	12	9	21	0.58	0.49
24	Bronchitis	7	4	11	0.30	0.57
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	5	...	5	0.14	0.14
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4	0.11	0.20
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	...	2	0.05	0.03
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	4	2	6	0.16	0.23
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	5	...	5	0.14	0.06
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	32	20	52	1.43	1.09
33	Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8	0.22	0.14
34	All other accidents	9	6	15	0.41	0.31
35	Suicide	3	1	4	0.11	0.14
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	...	1	0.03	0.00
	All causes	245	196	441	12.08	11.67

DEATHS—ALL CAUSES—1951.

Age Group	Quarter ending 31/3/51		Quarter ending 30/6/51		Quarter ending 30/9/51		Quarter ending 31/12/51		Total for the year	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 month	1	5	3	...	1	...	3	2	8	7
1—2 months	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
2—3 „	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
3—6 „	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
6—9 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9—12 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to 1 year	1	6	4	...	2	...	3	2	10	8
1—4 years	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	2
5—9 „	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1
10—19 „	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
20—29 „	4	1	4	...	1	...	1	...	10	1
30—39 „	...	3	1	2	3	2	1	1	5	8
40—49 „	...	4	2	3	1	3	4	2	7	12
50—59 „	9	5	7	6	8	2	6	2	30	15
60—64 „	10	4	...	4	2	4	2	3	14	15
65—69 „	8	5	13	4	7	6	8	2	36	17
70—79 „	22	24	15	9	18	18	16	14	71	65
80—89 „	24	18	14	6	6	6	9	13	53	43
90 and over	2	3	...	2	1	1	...	3	3	9
Totals	83	74	61	36	50	43	51	43	245	196
	157		97		93		94		441	

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age: 1950 — 11 — 2.7%
1951 — 18 — 4.08%

Deaths of persons aged 65 years and over: 1950 — 291 — 71.32%
1951 — 297 — 67.35%

Details of the work carried out in connection with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area (Environmental Hygiene), Water Supply, Drainage, Supervision of Food Supplies and the Public Cleansing Service will be found in the attached report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who, in conjunction with the Cleansing Officer, has reported separately on these matters, as in previous years.

In conclusion I would like to add that the continued support of the Council throughout the year, and the loyal co-operation of my staff have been greatly appreciated.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

N. HAY BOLTON,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

Council Offices,

High Street,

West Malling,

Kent.

4th June, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the Malling Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my fourth Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances existing in the rural district.

During the year under review it has been possible to pay attention to almost every aspect of sanitation and environmental hygiene within the area. This has been due to the appointment of the Second Additional Sanitary Inspector. Thus it has been possible to devote an adequate amount of time to the inspection of registered premises. The greater part of this time has been spent at food premises and on food sampling in accordance with the national policy of ensuring cleanliness in the handling of the public's food supply. Such time has proved to be well spent for improvement has already resulted in the various preparation rooms dealing with the food for this rural area.

The clerical staff has been more constant this past year with the result that the office has been re-organised and made more efficient. All in all it has been possible to effect a greater sanitary improvement in the area than in recent years as will be seen from the various figures in the body of the report.

SECTION C

WATER

The Mid-Kent Water Company provides a piped water supply to the major portion of the Malling Rural area. A small part of the parish of Aylesford and three cottages in the parish of Ditton are supplied from the Maidstone Water Company's mains. The Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Water Company supply four houses in the parish of Shipbourne from their mains. Private piped supplies are provided for the major part of Shipbourne parish and small parts of the parishes of Aylesford, Birling, Borough Green, Ightham, Platt, Plaxtol, Snodland and West Peckham. Of the 9,984 inhabited dwellings according to the Rate Books at the end of 1951 (computed) approximately 97.58% are served by a piped supply of water. 248 new connections to the mains were made during the year.

It is difficult to give the exact number of houses supplied by stand pipes but it is estimated the figure is approximately three per cent. of the total number of houses having a piped supply.

Houses supplied by the:

Mid-Kent Water Company (Distribution in all parishes)	...	...	...	...	...	9463
Maidstone Water Company	...	...	...	...	...	60
Tonbridge Water Company	...	...	...	...	...	4
						— 9527

Houses supplied by piped supply from spring sources in the parishes of:—

Aylesford	...	...	...	...	...	43
Birling	...	...	...	...	...	2
Borough Green	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ightham	...	...	...	...	...	7
West Peckham	...	...	...	...	...	18
Platt	...	...	...	...	...	2
Plaxtol	...	...	...	...	...	8
Shipbourne	...	...	...	...	...	119
Snodland	...	...	...	...	...	8
						— 215
						— 9742
						—

Samples: All supplies are subjected to sampling from time to time. The following table indicates the results of the year's sampling. In addition to the results shown the Maidstone and Mid-Kent Water Companies sample their supplies regularly and notify me of the results:—

Type of Water	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Examination		
	Number of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Number of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Raw Water	9	1	8	3	...	3
Treated Water	15	15	...	3	3	...

Appropriate action was taken in the case of all the unsatisfactory samples. In the case of the 3 unsatisfactory chemical samples the bacteriological reports on the same waters were also unsatisfactory and are included in the figure of 8 such samples. 3 of these 8 samples related to a private piped supply in the parish of Shipbourne which, after cleansing of the reservoirs and repair of the pipe lines, has since proved satisfactory. A further 3 related to individual spring and well sources and the five cottages involved have since been connected to the Company's mains supply. The other 2 samples related to a spring source in the parish of East Peckham. This matter was still receiving attention at the end of the year and meantime the Owner advised that such water should be boiled before being used for potable purposes.

Extension of Mains: 2,372 yards of 4in. and 2,376 yards of 3in. mains were laid during the year, details of which are set out in the following table:—

Parish	Yards	Size	Water Company
Aylesford	1590	3 inches	Mid-Kent
	1256	4 "	"
Burham	500	4 "	"
Platt	282	3 "	"
Plaxtol	140	3 "	"
Ryarsh	108	3 "	"
West Malling	616	4 "	"
	256	3 "	"

The new mains in the parishes of Burham and Aylesford were for the purpose of serving the Kits Coty Estate, and Lower Bell locality of the parish of Aylesford, which had formerly been dependent on stored rain water for their supply.

Delivery of Water: 4,000 gallons of water were carried during 1951 to premises which, being dependent upon stored rain water were temporarily without a supply. This compares with 13,200 gallons and 25,250 gallons carried respectively in 1950 and 1949. The considerable reduction in the amount transported during 1951 is accounted for by the fact that more rain fell during 1951 than in recent years, as will be seen from the following table; and also because of the laying of the mains to serve the Kits Coty Estate and Lower Bell locality of the parish of Aylesford, and the subsequent connection of premises in these areas to the mains. This is evidenced by the fact that all but 400 gallons of the 4,000 gallons carted was delivered to premises in the Peckham Hurst area of the parish of West Peckham; the 400 gallons being delivered to an isolated cottage at Holly Hill, in the parish of Birling.

Rainfall: The following data concerning the year's rainfall (with comparative figures for the four previous years) recorded at East Malling Research Station has been supplied by the Scientific Liaison Officer of that Station:—

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Total amount of rain which fell during the year.	23.47 ins.	26.07 ins.	20.94 ins.	27.35 ins.	35.81 ins.
Number of days on which rain fell during the year.	135	150	132	184	194
Heaviest rainfall on any one day during the year.	1.52 ins. (18.7.47)	1.67 ins. (14.6.48)	1.50 ins. (20.10.49)	1.36 ins. (25.4.50)	1.45 ins. (12.7.51)
Longest wet period during the year.	8 days (13.12.47) to (20.12.47)	8 days (23.1.48) to (30.1.48)	15 days (1.1.49) to (15.1.49)	17 days (30.1.50) to (15.2.50)	29 days (28.10.51) to (25.11.51)
Longest dry period during the year.	36 days (2.8.47) to (6.9.47)	23 days (22.2.48) to (15.3.48)	26 days (8.6.49) to (3.7.49)	11 days (3.3.50) to (13.3.50)	10 days (30.5.51) to (8.6.51)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A scheme to drain the 10 pre-war Council houses and bungalows at Fen Pond Road, Ightham, into a sump and to pump the sewage into the treatment works of the new houses opposite was completed during the year. This system has proved to be very satisfactory and has saved a lot of work by doing away with the cesspools which had proved so troublesome.

Although the present sewers and sewage disposal works are functioning without too much trouble the effluents are not entirely satisfactory and I am concerned as to what will be the position when new housing schemes, now envisaged, are connected to the works at present overloaded. This applies chiefly to the Ditton and West Malling works. At the moment Ditton is grossly overloaded and is to receive the flow from the proposed Clare Park Estate. It appears to me that the greatest housing need is in the industrial area of Aylesford and Ditton and future development would have to drain to Ditton. It is obvious therefore that major works of enlargement will be necessary to the works in conjunction with such development. Such enlargement is provided for in the new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme prepared by your Consultant Engineers.

With regard to the West Malling works the married quarters development taking place at the aerodrome is a big factor with regard to the overloading of this sewage plant. Accordingly the Air Ministry were approached with a view to their accepting some responsibility for alterations to this works to deal adequately with the flow. A decision has not yet been reached on this point. Samples of the mixed effluent and that from the old portion of the works proved to be unsatisfactory, whilst that from the extension provided during the war proved to be satisfactory. The alterations envisaged are not of a major nature.

With the passing of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, Rivers Boards have been set up and Inspectors appointed. Power is given to these Boards to make byelaws relating to river pollution and these may include, inter alia, for a standard of effluent discharged from a sewage works. No such standard has yet been framed but much will depend on the strength of such standard, as to whether or not the effluents discharged from your works can be considered satisfactory.

Routine dragging of the sewers in Ryarsh Lane, West Malling, and Holborough Road, Snodland, took place during the year and much deposited silt and other foreign matter was removed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the year under review the most interesting features of the Cleansing Service were:—

1. Although the number of employees remained the same as the previous year, more tonnage was moved by the refuse vehicles and more loads removed by the Cesspool Emptiers.

2. There were 212 more premises erected during the year requiring refuse collection, 156 with a weekly service and the remainder fortnightly.

3. There were six more disposal plants handed over for maintenance.

Manpower.

The 43 employees of the Council were engaged as follows:—

- 1 Foreman.
- 1 Fitter.
- 1 Rodent Control.
- 2 Maintenance.
- 12 Refuse Collection.
- 2 Refuse Disposal.
- 2 Disposal Plants, Grass Cutting and Sludge Removal.
- 10 Cesspool Emptying and Night Soil.
- 10 Sewers and Sewage Disposal.
- 2 Salvage (Women).

Sickness and holidays interfered with the efficient working of the department and it is interesting to note that more time was lost through sickness than in the previous year. During 1950 a total of 268½ days were lost and during 1951 a total of 296 days, giving an increase of 27½ days. It will be readily seen that the total time lost represented the loss of one man for over a year.

During the year 19 men left the Council's employment and 19 new men were engaged as replacements.

Refuse Collection.

The method of collection remained the same as in the previous year, bins being placed near to the road by householders, with exceptions in the case of old or infirm people. The refuse collected increased in bulk, but, as will be seen from the table below, it decreased in weight. This is due, in some measure no doubt, to the shortage of solid fuels which decreased the ash content, and to an increase in certain combustible materials which were, in all probability, previously burnt by householders.

Due to the additional bulk of the refuse and the increasing number of houses, some thought had to be given to the question of handling the extra material. Towards the end of the year tests were carried out with larger vehicles with some method of packing. Having obtained satisfactory results, it was decided that the next vehicle purchased would be of a larger size than those now in use and to be of the compressor type.

The increase in the cartage of hardcore, etc., is due to the occasional fresh road making for emptier tip roads when fresh sites for the disposal of their contents have been obtained. Unfortunately, some of these sites had been used only for a short time when, owing to complaints from residents in the vicinity, their use had to cease and all the preparation work was wasted.

Throughout the year the vehicle allocated to grass cutting and the maintenance of disposal plants has been in full use, a fact which explains the considerable increase in miscellaneous tonnage in the table below.

The total tonnage handled, 11,114½ tons, shows an increase over the previous year of 578½ tons.

Salvage.

The year has been remarkably successful for the collection of salvage; the receipts from waste paper being very remunerative. No doubt it will be a long time before such high prices are paid again. Collection and receipts during the year were as follows:—

Waste paper, card-board, etc.	141 tons	5 cwts.	3 qts.	produced	£2,184	19	3
Metal, rags, woollens, etc.	8 tons	15 cwts.	3 qts.	„		227	16 6
Total salvage ...	150 tons	1 cwt.	2 qts.	produced	£2,412	15	9

The results would no doubt have been still better but for the number of private collectors who took advantage of the high prices being paid.

The following table gives comparative figures for the last three years, in tons.

Year	Refuse	Hardcore & Covering	Drainage	Salvage	Misc.	Total
1949	6954	1378	331	*675½		9338½
1950	7925½	1790½	530	† 17½	273	10536
1951	7607	1924½	627½	150	§ 805	11114½

* This figure includes Miscellaneous work in addition to Salvage.

† 27th November to 31st December only.

§ Extra lorry employed on grass cutting, maintenance of housing site disposal plants, etc.

Refuse Disposal.

Apart from a few isolated premises, the Aerodrome and Leybourne Grange, the whole of the refuse from the district has been conveyed by the Council's vehicles to the Ham

Hill Brookland tip, the Aerodrome and Leybourne Grange bringing their refuse to the tip in their own lorries. These two places bring in a total of approximately 500 tons per year, which, together with the refuse collected by the Council, just over 7,600 tons per annum, means that over 8,000 tons have to be dealt with on the tip. The purchase of a Muledozer in April has proved to be an asset. It can handle and consolidate the refuse and covering easily and no further use has to be made of sleepers and running boards for the tip. The collecting vehicles can move about anywhere on the tip without fear of sinking.

Cesspool Emptying.

The demand for the Cesspool Emptiers continues to increase, 506 more loads being removed than in the previous year, but the most serious difficulty is in the disposing of the contents. Where, in the past, farmers and other persons were willing to have the contents of cesspools deposited on their land, the quantity now is so great that people in residences near to disposal points complain of smell and nuisance and it has become necessary to transport this sewage to disposal points further afield. These longer runs obviously increase the cost of emptying and reduce the number of loads per vehicle per day, but it is becoming increasingly apparent that longer journeys to Council controlled tips in Sewage works or satisfactory remote positions is the only solution.

The new tip at Addington has been of great assistance, and negotiations are in progress to obtain a permanent disposal plant in Mereworth Woods.

It will be noticed that the essential work of flushing sewers was considerably reduced in an endeavour to satisfy people whose cesspools required attention.

There seems to be no hope of any reduction in the work of cesspool emptying until it is possible for some drainage schemes to be completed.

A new Cesspool Emptier was purchased in January, the oldest vehicle being retained as a spare.

The following table gives comparative figures for the years 1950 and 1951:—

Year	Loads Removed				
	Cesspools	Flushing	Sludge, etc.	Pails	Total
1950	10578	480	135	156 [23514 pls.]	11349
1951	11084	211	345	168 [25295 pls.]	11808

Garages, Vehicles and Maintenance.

All vehicles, with the exception of the Muledozer, are garaged at East Malling, and it is hoped to improve gradually the workshop equipment in order to facilitate maintenance. Repairs to, and maintenance of, transport are carried out on the premises, which not only reduces cost but also minimises the loss of time due to breakdowns.

During the year a 2-ton truck was purchased to replace the old one which was 12 years old, and a 10-cwt. van in place of one which was 16 years old, together with an additional 5-cwt. van for Rodent Control use.

The vehicles in use during the year were: 3 Barrier loaders, 3 Side loaders, 1—2 ton Truck, 2 Vans, 6 Cesspool Emptiers and a Tractor with Muledozer, a total of 16 vehicles.

Disposal Plants and Ejector Units.

There are now 13 disposal plants, 3 ejector units and one pump unit which have to be maintained. The majority give no serious trouble beyond inspection, adjustments and cleansing. Two, however, are exceptions and have had to be given a great deal of attention.

At Mill Fields, East Peckham, due to a power cut, an electric motor and control box were burnt out. After replacement no further trouble has been experienced.

At Trottiscliffe almost daily attention has been necessary owing to the constant overloading.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

During the year 7,489 inspections were carried out in connection with the work of the Department comprised as follows:—

FOOD PREMISES.

Number of visits to	Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	54
"	"	"	"	Bakehouses	...	...	25
"	"	"	"	Butchers' Shops	...	...	65
"	"	"	"	Grocers' Shops	...	...	82
"	"	"	"	Fishmongers' Shops	...	...	17
"	"	"	"	Cafés	...	...	25
"	"	"	"	Works Canteens	...	...	5
"	"	"	"	Public Houses	...	...	20
"	"	"	"	Knackers' Yards	...	...	2
"	"	"	"	Slaughter-houses	...	...	68
"	"	"	"	Piggeries	...	...	14
"	"	"	"	Milk "Distributors"	...	...	39
"	"	"	"	Slaughter-houses	re	Inspection of carcasses	39
"	"	"	"	Premises	re	condemnation of food	45
"	"	"	"	"	"	application for registration of premises for the sale of ice-cream	22
"	"	"	"	re	Water Supplies	...	65
"	"	"	"	Samples of drinking water collected	...	...	30
"	"	"	"	Swimming Bath water collected	...	...	18
"	"	"	"	Milk collected	...	...	80
"	"	"	"	Ice-cream collected	...	...	35

Environmental Hygiene and Miscellaneous.

Number of visits to Shops other than food premises	2
" " " " Factories	157
" " " " Outworkers	1
" " " <i>re</i> Construction of New Garages (M.R.D.C.)	5
" " " " Aged Persons	7
" " " <i>to</i> Dirty Premises	7
" " " " Premises <i>re</i> Rat and/or Mice Infestations	1283
" " Premises fumigated for pests and/or vermin (other than rats and mice)	45
" " Disinfections carried out after Infectious and Notifiable Diseases	23
" " visits to premises <i>re</i> Notifiable and Infectious diseases	27
" " Inspections of Refuse Accumulations and/or Manure Heaps	50
Number of visits in connection with complaints <i>re</i> domestic animals	2
" " Inspections carried out under Housing and/or Public Health Acts—First visits ...	879
Revisits	822
" " visits to meet owners/agents	47
" " " " Builders	106
" " Housing Inspections in connection with rehousing	848
" " Huts/Hutted camps inspected (Emergency Housing)	479
" " visits to sewage disposal outfall works, pumping stations and small group disposal works	342
" " special investigations <i>re</i> proposed schemes for sewerage	370
" " Cesspools and/or septic tank installations inspected	137
" " Drains inspected and/or Tested	314
" " Inspections of sewers	102
" " Rivers, streams, ditches, ponds and/or water courses, etc., inspected	10
" " visits to Swimming Baths	19
" " " " Places of public assembly	21
" " " " Hop Pickers' Camps	64
" " Inspections of sites <i>re</i> moveable dwellings	60
" " " " moveable dwellings	77
" " visits to premises <i>re</i> storage of petroleum spirit	45
" " " " " flooding	1
" " " " " Land Charges	11
" " Miscellaneous visits	376

The following table sets out the sanitary works effected to existing premises during the year under review:—

Additional W.C.'s installed ...	95	Rain water guttering repaired/renewed ...	27
„ flushing cisterns installed ...	95	Dustbins supplied ...	104
Additional baths installed ...	39	Floors repaired/renewed ...	29
„ lavatory basins installed ...	66	Ceiling plaster repaired/renewed ...	53
Additional sinks installed ...	19	Chimney stacks repaired/rebuilt ...	20
„ urinals installed ...	5	Staircases repaired ...	3
„ gullies installed ...	81	W.C. compartments repaired/reconstructed ...	20
„ interceptor traps installed ...	13	Dampness remedied ...	27
Additional inspection chambers installed ...	77	Accumulations of refuse/manure removed ...	23
Additional water heaters provided ...	2	Abatement of nuisances — keeping of animals ...	2
Premises limewashed ...	10	Dust extractor plant repaired ...	1
Baths renewed ...	1	Dirty premises cleansed ...	4
Choked drains cleansed ...	16	Dangerous walls demolished/rebuilt ...	3
Chimney pots fixed ...	5	Intervening ventilated spaces provided ...	2
Cesspools provided ...	39	Names and addresses painted on milk vans ...	3
Manhole covers renewed ...	10	Pump serving well repaired ...	1
Drains laid/altered/repared	105	Concrete floors provided to Hopper Huts in lieu of earth ...	197
Drain vent. shafts repaired/renewed ...	4	New Hopper Huts constructed ...	55
Drain vent shafts provided	40	Water closets provided in lieu of earth closets at Hop Pickers' camps ...	8
Pail or earth closets converted to W.C.'s ...	22	Roofs of Hopper Huts repaired ...	39
Roofs repaired ...	60	Mains water supply provided to Hop Pickers' camps in lieu of well ...	1
Sinks renewed ...	8	Dwellings reconditioned in accordance with “Undertaking” (Section 11, Housing Act, 1936) ...	6
Sink waste pipes repaired/renewed ...	5	Dwellings demolished in accordance with an informal “Undertaking” ...	5
W.C., pans renewed ...	21	Number of Formal Notices served during 1951 ...	36
W.C., flushing cisterns repaired/renewed ...	22	Number of Informal Notices served during 1951 ...	279
External walls repointed/repared ...	26	Number of complaints received during 1951 ...	346
Doors and windows repaired/renewed ...	63		
Cooking ranges repaired/renewed ...	22		
Wall plaster repaired/renewed ...	65		
Gullies renewed ...	3		
Inspection chambers reconstructed ...	4		
Interceptor traps renewed ...	1		
Coppers repaired ...	7		
Fire grates repaired/renewed	16		
Yard paving repaired/renewed ...	5		

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the number of inspections of factories carried out and the details of defects found:—

1. Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	11	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	134	146	8	—
TOTAL	149	157	8	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	14	11	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work)	1	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	18	14	—	1	—

Outworkers: There is one outworker in the district who is engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

Shops Acts. Opportunity is taken to check on Shops Act administration when visits are paid to shops in connection with other duties, viz., inspection of foodstuffs, sampling of milk and ice-cream, etc.

The village shops generally continue to close before the terminal hour, and the number of shops which keep open for the sale of sugar confectionery and tobacco after 6 p.m.

is small, and observations made after closing time and on Sundays have not revealed any contraventions, and it has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings. The later hours allowed for Christmas shopping were again made known by the exhibition of suitable printed notices in prominent places in all the parishes of the Rural District. Shopkeepers requiring advice on hours of closing, half-closing, etc., are always assisted by the department, and leaflets are available for their guidance concerning the principal provisions of the Shops Act, 1950.

Swimming Baths and Pools. The two privately owned swimming pools in the rural district continued in use and were open to the public during the year and these were kept under supervision. Samples of the waters were taken and submitted to the County Laboratories for bacteriological and chemical examination (6 chemical and 12 bacteriological). In the case of one of the baths the reports showed that the handling of the treatment plant was not quite satisfactory and the Proprietor was interviewed. Later samples showed an improvement. The matter is being kept under observation.

Eradication of Pests (other than Rats and Mice). As in previous years efforts have been made to help persons seeking the aid of the department in connection with bug, flea and fly infestations. This work is carried out as required by the Rodent Operator, using a liquid insecticide containing residual D.D.T., or D.D.T. smoke generators. Such treatment usually proves satisfactory. 45 premises were treated during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. Baiting and poisoning of surface and sewer infestations, in the manner recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was carried out during the year, and again gave very satisfactory results.

The delivery of the 5-cwt. van which was authorised to be ordered for use in connection with this work has been of great benefit, and allowed the Operator to carry out the baiting promptly which previously at times was not possible when he had only a bicycle to get around the district. It is now possible to keep abreast of all the work and to attend to rodent infestations promptly before they get out of hand.

Of the sewers only those at Snodland have shown any marked degree of infestation, and every effort was made during the year to improve this position, with some success. These efforts will be continued during 1952.

The following two tables summarise rats and mice disinfestation treatments, both as regards surface and sewers:—

SURFACE.

				Local Authority's Property	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	Business Premises	Agricultural Property	Total	
Total as at 31/12/51				17	8497	1045	1068	10,627	
Number of Properties in Local Authority's Area	In which infestation was	Notified by Occupier		...	134	17	...	151	
		Otherwise discovered		12	...	...	1	13
		Recorded Total		12	134	17	1	164	
Analysis of Recorded Total	Number infested by Rats (Rats and Mice)	Major		6	33	4	1	44	
		Minor		5	79	5	...	89	
	Mice only		1	22	8	...	31		
Number of Properties Inspected				17	112	9	1	139	
Number of Inspections Made				173	975	133	2	1283	
Number of Notices served under Section 4	Treatments			...	...	...	...	...
	Works			...	...	...	...	...
Number of treatments carried out	By arrangement with occupier	Rats and Mice		24	117	13	...	154	
		Mice only		1	20	7	...	28	
	Under Section 5 (i)	Rats and Mice		...	...	...	...	...
		Mice only		...	...	...	...	...
Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Section 6(i) or by informal arrangement		Number of Blocks		...	16	...	...	16
		Surface	Number of separate occupancies		...	48	48
			Associated Sewers	Number of manholes treated		...	3	...	...	3

SEWERS.

Section	Number of Manholes	Number Pre-baited		Number of Pre-bait takes		Number poison baited		Number of poison bait takes	
		Jan.	July	Jan.	July	Jan.	July	Jan.	July
Aylesford (inc. Burham and Eccles)	132	13	Not treated	—	Not treated	—	Not treated	—	Not treated
East Malling	80	8		—		—		—	
Ditton	80	8		—		—		—	
Borough Green	65	7		—		—		—	
Platt	45	5		—		—		—	
Plaxtol	36	4	Not treated	—	Not treated	—	Not treated	—	Not treated
Wrotham	30	4		—		—		—	
West Malling	98	17		3		3		3	4
Snodland	86	32	84	26	40	26	47	22	35
Totals	652	98	90	29	43	29	53	25	39

SECTION D

Housing. Once again vigorous efforts have been made to effect an improvement in housing conditions during the year. The appointment of the new Additional Sanitary Inspector has been a big factor in following up notices requiring landlords to carry out repairs. At the expense of appearing trite, I would point out that the low rents received for cottage property is probably the biggest obstacle in the path of achieving anything but the most urgent of repairs. Statutory notices are served as required and during the year it was necessary to apply to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction for Abatement Orders under Section 94 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of five properties. Four of these were granted by the Justices and resulted in the repair work required being carried out. In the other case the work was put in hand before the Court hearing and the application for an Abatement Order was withdrawn.

Four cottages were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act for demolition, and were in the course of demolition at the year's end. Undertakings were received from owners in respect of three properties to the effect that the cottages would be kept closed pending demolition.

Hutted Camps. Much time was taken up during the year by the staff visiting the various huts in connection with

complaints of disrepair. The age of these huts now makes it extremely difficult to keep them in sound repair and the cost of doing so becomes increasingly higher. The five huts at Forstal Road, Aylesford, which the Ministry had agreed should be demolished on the rehousing of the tenants were empty at the end of the year and the necessary steps were in hand for their demolition. The Ministry's representatives visited Court Lodge Camp, Aylesford, during the year and as a result these huts also are to be considered for demolition whenever they become vacant. At the end of the year 101 families were in occupation at huts at 5 camps within the district.

Number of new dwellings erected during the year:—
 (Information supplied by Mr. J. Hole, M.I.Mun.E.—
 Building Surveyor.)

(a) By the Local Authority (Permanent)			
(i)	Prefabricated types ...	<i>Nil</i>	
(ii)	Traditional types ...	200	
		—	200
(b)	By others ...	...	13
			—
			213
			—

Rural Housing Survey. 324 houses were inspected and recorded during the year. The Officer engaged in this work also makes the necessary enquiries for the selection of tenants for new Council cottages which duty takes up the major portion of his time, thus restricting the number of properties inspected for the Rural Housing Survey. He was also absent from duty on account of sickness for four months during the year.

A total of 2,265 houses has now been inspected and recorded, the details of which are as follows:—

Category.		No.	% to total surveyed
1.	Satisfactory in all respects ...	116	5·12
2.	Minor defects ...	1778	78·50
3.	Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement ...	230	10·15
4.	Appropriate for reconditioning	—	—
5.	Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost ...	141	6·23

The following table records details of amenities existing at premises inspected:—

		During 1951	Inclusive total at end of 1951
Number of houses inspected		324	2265
Sink		324	2181
Washing Accommodation		159	2021
Bath		129	166
Cooking Facilities	*Ranges	96	1922
	Electricity	58	97
	Gas	163	230
	Oil	7	16
Food Storage	Ventilated	147	276
	Unventilated	177	1989
Water Supply	Main	299	2240
	Well	—	—
	Rain Water Storage	25	25
	Piped Indoors	299	2108
Drainage	Sewer	76	1641
	Cesspool	225	586
	None	23	38
Closet Accommodation	W.C. Indoors	155	160
	W.C. Outdoors	140	1840
	Pail Closet Outdoors	21	256
	Privy Midden	3	3
	Chemical Closet	5	6

* It should be noted that approximately 65% of this number have other means of cooking either by electricity or gas in addition to ranges.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD FOOD PREMISES.

Cafés and Canteens. The principal cafés and large works canteens were inspected during the year to ascertain compliance with the Food and Drugs Act and Food Byelaws, also to endeavour to educate food handlers to higher standards of food hygiene. Attention is paid to premises on the trunk road A20 as large numbers of trippers use them. It was necessary to call attention to unsatisfactory conditions in a ladies' sanitary convenience at one food premises catering for large numbers of coaches which resulted in the appointment of a lady attendant and consequent improvement.

In connection with the Food Byelaws, only minor contraventions were noted, chiefly concerning the provision of notices in sanitary conveniences requesting food handlers to wash their hands.

Bakehouses. There are 16 bakehouses in the district and 25 visits of inspection were made to these premises during the year. The standard of cleanliness is generally good. One bakehouse was reconstructed during the year.

Butchers' Shops. During the year 65 inspections were carried out to 29 butchers' shops in the district. Special attention was given to the arrangements existing for the hygienic preparation of sausages and sausage meat, as well as to the general state of repair and cleanliness of the shops. The following table shows the various defects and conditions which were found to exist:—

Ceilings defective	...	10	Rooms closed as unsuitable for	
Floors defective	...	3	use	...
Rooms requiring cleans-			Table tops or blocks worn and	
ing and/or whitening	11		unsuitable	...
Doors defective	...	3	Accumulations or extraneous	
Walls defective	...	4	articles found in food rooms	3
Windows defective	...	2	Dirty overalls in use	...

Appropriate action was taken in these cases and by the end of the year an improvement had taken place.

Fish Shops. There are ten shops in the district selling wet or fried fish, and 17 inspections were made to these for cleanliness and state of repair. Appropriate action was taken in cases where premises were found to be below the required standard.

MILK.

Food and Drugs Acts 1938-1950.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Whilst milk production is the concern of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the distribution of milk is under the supervision of the local authority. In this connection

there are 13 dairies registered in the rural area and 40 persons are registered as “distributors” of milk within the district. The standard of the dairies is considered to be satisfactory and in all but two of the premises refrigerated cold stores are available for milk storage. 54 routine inspections of dairy premises were carried out during the year.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The undermentioned licences to use Special Designations were granted during the year:—

	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Dealers' Licences	14	—	6	7
Supplementary Licences	5	1	5	—
Totals	19	1	11	7

In the case of the dealers' licences only two “distributors” bottle designated milk at their dairies in this district. In both cases “Tuberculin Tested” milk from a licensed producer is bottled and capped in accordance with the Regulations. In all other cases designated milk is obtained and sold in the sealed bottles in which it is delivered from approved sources.

A satisfactory standard was maintained with regard to designated milks as will be seen from the following record of samples taken:—

Grade	Number of samples taken	Number which satisfied the prescribed test	Number which did not satisfy the prescribed test
Tuberculin Tested	27	21	6
Tuberculin Tested [Pasteurised]	1	1	—
Pasteurised	12	12	—
Sterilised	23	23	—

In the case of the six unsatisfactory samples the dairies concerned were inspected and repeat samples taken which proved to be satisfactory.

In cases where bovine cattle are sent in from this district for slaughter, and found on post-mortem examination to be affected with tuberculosis, samples of the milk supply from the remainder of the cattle in the herd are submitted for examination for the presence of tuberculosis. In addition, during 1951 routine samples of mixed milk from herds supplying non-designated milk to be sold raw in the district have also been submitted for examination. In this connection 17 such samples in all were submitted during the year, all of which proved negative.

Meat and Other Foods. The meat supply for the rural district comes from the centralised slaughter-houses of the adjacent urban areas. Four private slaughter-houses are licensed in this area in connection with the Self-Suppliers of Pigs Scheme, and 57 pigs killed in this way were inspected during the year; one pig's head of 12 lbs. weight affected with tuberculosis being surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

Inspections of food at various retail food premises in the area are carried out from time to time and in this connection the following quantity of foodstuffs was surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

Article.	Weight			
	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Tinned and Bottled Fruits	4	0	10	14
Tinned Soups			7	0½
Tinned Vegetables		2	13	9
Tinned Fish			16	14
Tinned Meat	8	3	0	7½
Tinned Jams			9	5
Wet Fish	1	1	0	0
Butchers' Meat	1	2	6	4
Cheese			19	8
Dried Fruit		2	3	0
Butter and Margarine	1	2	12	4
Pickled Red Cabbage			1	0
Christmas Pudding			1	0
Layer Cake			16	0
Total ...	19	0	5	2

In addition to the weights shown above the equivalent of 66 pints of condensed and evaporated milk was also surrendered as unfit.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the Malling Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1951, and submitted to the Public Analyst, have been kindly furnished by the Chief Inspector (Mr. S. Strugnell) of the Weights and Measures Department of the Kent County Council, who are the responsible authority for this purpose in this district:—

Article.	No.	Article.	No.
Apricot Jam	1	Brought forward ...	31
Aspirin Tablets	1	Milk	39
Bisto	1	Milk of Magnesia	1
Bitter Beer	1	Milk of Magnesia Tablets...	1
Blue Danish Cheese	1	Mint Sauce	1
Butter	2	Peanut Butter	1
Celery Salt	1	Processed Cheese Spread ...	1
Cheese	1	Processed Peas	1
Compound Cough Syrup ...	1	Rum	1
Cooking Fat	1	Sago	1
Cream of Chicken Soup ...	1	Sausage Meat	1
Cut Dried Peel	1	Seed Tapioca	1
Dried Peas	1	Self-Raising Flour	1
Dry Mincemeat	1	Sherbo Fizz with Edible	
Fancy Crabmeat	1	Straw	1
Fish Paste (Salmon and		Soda Mint Tablets	1
Shrimp)	1	Sweetened Sponge Mixture	1
Fizz	1	Table Jelly Crystals	1
Gin	2	Table Salt	1
Glacé Cherries	1	Takazyma Lozenges	1
Goats' Cream	1	Tapioca	1
Granulated Sugar	2	Tarrogon Vinegar	1
Ground White Pepper	2	Tomato Juice Cocktail ...	1
Ice-cream	1	Tomato Ketchup	1
Iodised Table Salt	1	Vitacup	1
Lentils	1	Vitbe Loaf	1
Macaroni, ready cut	1	Whisky	2
Mild Ale	1	Yeast-Vite Tablets	1
Carried forward ...	31	Total ...	96

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sample of.	Analysis.	Action taken.
Milk.	Slightly deficient in fat.	Further samples were taken and were satisfactory.
Milk.	8.3% deficient in fat.	No action. Further samples satisfactory.
Custard Powder.	Declaration of ingredients included Rye starch. The analysis did not disclose this ingredient.	The manufacturers stated that old labels had inadvertently been used.

Ice-cream. There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district. 81 premises are registered for the storage and sale, all of whom are selling ice-cream from approved sources. 35 samples were taken during the year, the results of which were as follows:—

Grade I—23; Grade II—8; Grade III—4; Grade IV—Nil.

In all cases where a Grade III result was obtained, further inspection was carried out at the premises to check conditions, and repeat samples then collected which in each case proved to be satisfactory.

Hop and Fruit Pickers' Camps. There were 31 camps occupied during the picking season and 64 visits of inspection were made to check on conditions. The visiting Medical Officer from the Ministry of Health visited the district for a morning just prior to the picking season and considered the conditions at the seven camps inspected to be satisfactory. Every effort is made to encourage growers to effect improvement to the huts to better conditions for the pickers. In this connection 197 concrete floors were provided in place of earth, whilst one camp was discontinued and a new camp of 20 up-to-date huts with a mains water supply was provided in lieu. 55 new huts were provided in all. At the largest camp in the district a sanitary block containing 5 W.C.s for females and 3 W.C.s and urinal for males was provided with requisite drainage to replace insanitary trench latrines. Once again a letter was sent to all growers just prior to picking drawing attention to the need for strict cleanliness to the temporary latrines and to the need for regular refuse collection and sanitary disposal to preclude risk to health.

Camping Sites (Public Health Act, 1936—Section 269) (Moveable Dwellings).

The following gives particulars of licences dealt with during the year:—

(a) Number of applications received during 1951 for licences to use land as sites for moveable dwellings	...	...	26
Number of licences granted	...	...	14
(b) Number of applications received during 1951 for licences to station and use moveable dwellings on sites in (a)	...	58	
Number of licences granted	...	...	29

Two of the site licences not granted referred to one site housing 15 trailer caravans and another containing four caravans, and both applications were deferred pending provision of public health requirements. Three refusals referred to isolated sites for single caravans and the remaining 7 refusals all referred to moveable dwellings in the Kits Coty Estate area where licences were refused because of the danger of pollution to subsoil waters, the Estate forming the water catchment area of the Maidstone Borough and Preston Hall water supplies. Appeals were lodged against the Council's decision on four of the Kits Coty cases and were down for hearing by the Court of Summary Jurisdiction at the year's end.

The number of licences granted does not represent the true number of moveable dwellings at present being used for residential purposes within the area, and it has not been possible to check up on every one known to the department.

The Council adopted a list of public health conditions during the year for attachment to licences so that the necessary amenities may be provided and sanitary conditions secured.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity of expressing thanks to the Council for their support and backing during the year without which little could be achieved. My thanks are also due to the staff who remain loyal and ever willing to assist in the work of improving sanitary conditions in the area.

I am,

Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. COLDRICK,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Parish.	Number of Houses according to Rate Books — December 1951 (computed).			Area (acres)	Population (estimated)
Addington	155			1119	535
Aylesford	1247			4013	4789
Birling	249			1801	820
Borough Green	522			480	1728
Burham	505			1632	1735
Ditton	486			1066	1730
Ightham	444			2278	1650
Leybourne	156			755	779
East Malling	931			2787	3340
West Malling	677			1379	2308
Mereworth	194			2556	792
Offham	202			1479	742
East Peckham	606			3337	2278
West Peckham	97			1582	332
Platt	316			1827	1283
Plaxtol	307			2406	1103
Ryarsh	216			1375	868
Shipbourne	133			2007	453
Snodland	1201			1958	4463
Stansted	163			1974	587
Trottiscliffe	138			1155	476
Wateringbury	359			1377	1348
Wouldham	249			1855	819
Wrotham	431			3457	1552
Total	9984			45655	36510

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